

US Serial No. 10/525291
Page 9 of 14

Remarks:

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-15, and 18-24 under 35 USC 112:

The applicants traverse the Examiner's rejection of the claims under 35 USC 112.

The currently presented amendments to the claims have been amended to address the Examiner's objection. The Examiner's attention is directed to these amended claims and in particular to the terms "consisting essentially of" of claim 22 and "consisting solely of" of claim 24. Such are believed to provided narrowed claim scope for these two claims which have also been rewritten to be dependent from claim 1.

With respect to the Examiner's remarks concerning the scope of patent protection sought by the exclusion of known-art cationic quaternary ammonium compounds known to be effective against gram positive/gram negative, and other known-art antimicrobial constituents, such is believed to be quite readily understood from the applicant's specification. It is clear therefrom such materials are to be excluded.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-15, 18-24 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 6221823 to Crisanti:

The applicants respectfully traverse this rejection in view of the Crisanti reference, and consider that although the Examiner hand noted the word "anticipated" in the rejection, that the word "obvious" was intended as the rejection was based on 35 USC 103(a).

The applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's continued rejection of the claims, and in considering the following remarks, directs the Examiner to consider the currently amended claims.

The applicant also directs the attention of the Examiner to newly presented claim 25. The Crisanti reference is wholly silent as to any efficacy against fungi, and as is well known in the relevant art efficacy against gram positive and/or gram negative bacteria is irrelevant as a predictor that a composition would have any benefit against fungi.

US Serial No. 10/525291
Page 10 of 14

The applicant directs the Examiner's attention to claims 5 and 6. The applicant points takes the position that that the currently claimed invention is nonobvious over the Crisanti reference and at least claims 5 and 6 should be considered patentable thereover.

In order to be effective, Crisanti necessarily requires a "Constituent B", a mixture of hydrophobic and hydrophilic organic solvents. (See Crisanti, col. 3, lines 62 – col. 5, line 10). The presence of this "dual-solvent system" is a key feature of the Crisanti compositions.

Contrary to Crisanti's requirements, the present applicants have unexpectedly discovered that such a 'dual-solvent system' is not required in order to provide excellent antimicrobial efficacy, wholly contrary to Crisanti's teaching.

As is noted in the applicant's working examples in their published US patent application, the present applicants demonstrate compositions which include a sole alcohol as an organic solvent, and which provide excellent product performance in remediating undesired bacteria. The formulation of Ex. 1 of applicants' Table 1 provides:

TABLE 1

Component	Ex. 1	Ex. 2
Hostaper SAS 60 ⁽¹⁾	4.58	5.00
Alfonse 810-4.5 ⁽²⁾	1.00	3.00
ethanol	1.00	1.00
dipropylene glycol n-propyl ether	—	—
citric acid solution ⁽³⁾	—	7.00
citric acid ⁽⁴⁾	3.50	—
fragrance ⁽⁵⁾	0.20	—
deionized water	q.s.	q.s.

⁽¹⁾sodium C₁₄₋₁₇ secondary sulfonate salt; 6

⁽²⁾C₉₋₁₀ alcohol ethoxylate having an ethyl

moles

⁽³⁾50% active

⁽⁴⁾anhydrous

⁽⁵⁾proprietary composition of its supplier

US Serial No. 10/525291
Page 11 of 14

This formula was demonstrated to be highly effective against the gram positive type pathogenic bacteria *Staphylococcus aureus*, and the gram negative type pathogenic bacteria *Salmonella choleraesuis* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* as applicants had reported on Table 2A.

TABLE 2A

<u>AOAC Germicidal Spray Test</u>		
challenge organism:	<u>Contact Time</u>	
	30 seconds (Pass/Fail)	5 minutes (Pass/Fail)
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	0/60 (Pass)	0/10 (Pass)
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	0/10 (Pass)	12/60 (Fail) ^A
<i>Salmonella choleraesuis</i>	0/10 (Pass)	0/10 (Pass)

^Abelieved to be an anomalous result, possibly due to inadvertent contamination during testing. Such results indicate excellent disinfecting efficacy of the tested composition.

Quite surprisingly the applicants had also found that such formulations also exhibited efficacy against more difficult to kill microorganisms, namely both certain viruses and fungi. This is seen when the applicant reports:

[0054] The formulation according to Example 1 as described on Table 1 above was evaluated according to the EPA Virucidal Test Method with the test results reported on the following Table 2B, wherein the number of log reduction achieved against the challenge organism is reported at 30 second and 5 minutes contact time.

TABLE 2B

<u>EPA Virucidal Test Method</u>		
challenge organism:	<u>Contact Time</u>	
	30 seconds	5 minutes
Respiratory Syncytial Virus	1.0	1.0
Rotavirus	1.93	2.5
Herpes Simplex Virus Type I	4.5	4.5
Herpes Simplex Virus Type II	3.0	3.17

[0055] Good efficacy against these various viruses was achieved.

US Serial No. 10/525291

Page 12 of 14

[0069]

TABLE 2F

Tested Tiles	Challenge Organism:	Tile Number	Visual Evaluation of Test Tiles	Magnified Evaluation of Test Tile
Test Formulation: Example 1	<i>Aspergillus niger</i>	1	No growth (0%)	No growth
		2	No growth (0%)	No growth
		3	No growth (0%)	No growth
		4	No growth (0%)	No growth
		5	No growth (0%)	No growth
		6	No growth (0%)	No growth
		7	No growth (0%)	No growth
		8	No growth (0%)	No growth
		9	No growth (0%)	No growth
		10	No growth (0%)	No growth

[0070] As is evident from the results reported on Table 2F, the formulation according to Example 1 of Table 1 demonstrated no growth of the fungus *Aspergillus niger* on any of the test tiles after 7 days. In sharp contrast, the untreated control tiles demonstrated significant growth of *Aspergillus niger* on at least 50% of the surface of all tiles after 7 days.

[0071] Such excellent results against both gram positive and gram negative pathogenic bacteria, as well as excellent efficacy against the initial and subsequent growth of a commonly encountered fungus, *Aspergillus niger* in a composition which specifically excludes known cationic quaternary ammonium compounds which are known to be effective against gram positive and/or gram negative type pathogenic bacteria, as well as excluding other known-art antimicrobial constituents or bleach as recited previously is surprising. Further surprising is the discovery that such

As would be appreciated by skilled artisans in the relevant field, such organisms do not feature the same mechanisms of eradication as that of bacteria, thus there is no predictability or expectation that efficacy against bacteria would extend to virus or fungi. Indeed it is fair to say that performance against one class of organism is mutually exclusive to its performance in different classes of organisms.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amended claims, reconsideration of the propriety of the rejection of the claims as being obvious over the prior art Crisanti reference is solicited.

US Serial No. 10/525291
Page 13 of 14

The amendments entered to the claims herein are not intended to disclaim any patentable subject matter, and are to be entered without prejudice or traverse. The applicant expressly reserves their right to reinstate any subject matter canceled in this paper in a later filed application.

In view of the foregoing amendments to the claims and remarks presented, withdrawal of all grounds of rejection and allowance of the claims to grant is requested. Early issuance of a *Notice of Allowability* is requested.

Should the Examiner believe that telephonic communication will advance the prosecution of the present application they are invited to telephone the undersigned at their convenience.

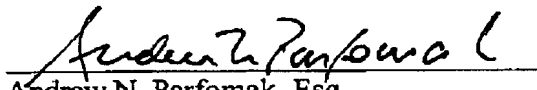
PETITION FOR A ONE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

The applicants respectfully petition the Commissioner for a one-month extension of time in order to permit for the timely entry of this paper. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263 with respect to this Petition.

CONDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR FEES

Should any further fee be required by the Commissioner in order to permit the timely entry of this paper, including any extension of time fees, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully Submitted;


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29 Oct 2007
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p. 14

US Serial No. 10/525291
Page 14 of 14

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